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ABSTRACT

This annual report on the comprehensive 5-year program for the enhancement of library services in New York State (1) provides a benchmark for the continuing planning, development, and evaluation of state library services; (2) summarizes the objectives, policies, and programs undertaken for the improvement of those services; (3) serves as a guide to library networks, regional planning groups, and other agencies that wish to participate; and (4) meets the requirements of the Federal Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA). An overview of the state library environment is offered, constraints on services are outlined, and the program's goals and objectives are explained. Tables provide summary statistics on public, academic, school, institution, and medical libraries; the New York State Library; public library systems; and reference and research library resource systems within the state. A bibliography of major documents for New York State library service programs and lists of New York members of the LSCA Advisory Council and the Regents Advisory Council on Libraries conclude the report. (THC)

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library service to the people of New York State

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a long-range program

The University of the State of New York
The State Education Department
Albany, New York 12230

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LIBRARY SERVICE
to the
PEOPLE OF NEW YORK STATE

A Long-Range Program
October 1, 1984–September 30, 1989
for the
Improvement of Library Services Utilizing
Local, State, and Federal Resources

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The University of the State of New York
The State Education Department
The New York State Library
Cultural Education Center
Albany, New York 12230
1984

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The Long-Range Program: Ideas From Many, Uses by Many

This comprehensive five-year program for the improvement of library services in New York State is revised each year. It is intended to:

- Provide a benchmark for the continuing planning, development, and evaluation of library services in New York State.
- Summarize for the Board of Regents, the State Education Department, New York State libraries, agencies and organizations with an interest in library services, and interested citizens of the State, the objectives, policies, and programs undertaken for the improvement of library services, particularly those that the Federal Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) program helps finance.
- Serve as a guide to library systems, regional planning groups, and other agencies that wish to participate in some way in the LSCA program.
- Meet the requirements of the Federal Library Services and Construction Act and the regulations of the U.S. Secretary of Education under that act.

Staff of the New York State Library and members of the LSCA Advisory Council have prepared this document (and its earlier versions) over the last several years. Others who review and contribute to this document are the Regents Advisory Council on Libraries, and within the State Education Department, the Commissioner of Education, the Executive Deputy Commissioner of Education, and the Deputy Commissioner for Cultural Education. The *Long-Range Program* is approved by the Board of Regents of The University of the State of New York.

The State Education Department and all associated with the library development program recognize the need for continuous evaluation and planning. This principle is observed in publications and action. Six basic policy documents for today's library service program in New York State are: *Meeting Information Needs of the 80's* (the Report of the Commissioner's Committee on Statewide Library Development); the *Long-Range Program;* the *LSCA Annual Program Statements; Major Recommendations of the Regents for Legislative Action; Federal Legislation and Eduation in New York State*, and *The Regents Action Plan for the Office of Cultural Education.*

The Libraries of New York State and Their Environment

Libraries—An Overview

Libraries have played a major role in New York State throughout its history. Most New York State communities support a public library. Many date back to the middle and early 1800's. Among them are public and private institutions which were founded and developed through gifts, bequests, and endowments. Some are of national and international repute and help establish library and information services as a major resource of the State.

In addition to these public libraries, the State has educational and academic institutions with library collections of great size and excellence. The State itself has supported a State Library since 1818. This vast research library is today the country's leading state library, with a collection of 4.5 million items. State-level library extension and development programs antedate this century and, under the leadership of the Regents and the Education Department, are exemplary for the nation.

During the last 30 years, the development of communication technology and the infor-

mation explosion have multiplied demands on public libraries. These libraries, and libraries of all types, have been changing in response to increasing demands by a better educated citizenry.

New York State's libraries draw researchers from throughout the nation and the world. They are leaders in the development of innovative services and the State's library systems were among the first in the nation. Much of the new technology for storage, retrieval, and communication of information was conceived in New York.

The following facts about libraries and library systems in New York State are notable:

- New York State has more than 7,700 libraries — public, academic, school, speical and institution — with 171 million books, films, pictures and manuscripts, almost 10,000 librarians, 12,300 other employees, and annual operating expenditures of $635 million.
- Responsibility for library services rests with the Board of Regents of The University of the State of New York, empowered by the State Constitution to direct educational activities.
- An outstanding regional public library program, composed of 22 systems, demonstrates that coordination of services and functions through cooperation can result in better service for users.
- Nine regional reference and research library resources systems share resources to meet the reference and information needs of college and university undergraduate and graduate students and faculty, members of the professions, and other special library users.
- Academic library resources of 249 colleges and universities, other postsecondary schools in the State, and collections of the New York Public Library Research Libraries are a major part of the State's total library resources.
- NYSILL — the State's first major service linking libraries of all types is the most fully developed statewide interlibrary loan network in the nation.
- There are school libraries in 95 percent of the public elementary and secondary schools and 75 percent of the nonpublic schools and twelve pilot school library systems operated from 1979 through 1984 have demonstrated benefits of resource sharing.
- Unparalleled special library resources in corporations, cultural institutions, voluntary associations, business, and government agencies are available to both special and general clienteles.
- The State provides substantial aid to cooperative and federated public library systems and to regional organizations for resource sharing. Public library system aid is allocated to support system headquarters operation and services to member libraries, passed through the system to the central library, and given as local sponsor incentive aid to encourage the system and its member libraries to maintain and increase the level of local support.
- The New York State Library is both a great research library and the library development agency for the State. It is the country's only state library that qualifies for membership in the prestigious Association of Research Libraries.

To provide access and increased services and to meet the informational, cultural, and recreational needs of all the people of the State, a comprehensive program involving all types of libraries is required. Parts of this program are already in place. Others are being developed as library planners work with legislation, rapidly developing technologies, and a changing environment of information services.

The trend toward lifelong learning, the increase in leisure time, and the expanded

role that information plays in the post-industrial society are altering the role of libraries. Today libraries supply information in a wide range of formats including printed materials, microforms, computer software, recordings, films, discs, and videotapes. Increasingly diverse clienteles come to libraries in search of new learning experiences, new ways to use leisure time more profitably, and to find their roots. Demand has also increased for research-level materials from postsecondary education, high technology industry, Federal, state and local governments, business and industry. As the ways to identify resources have multiplied, the demand for access to these resources has accelerated.

State Government

Education in New York State is under the direction of the Board of Regents whose powers are provided for in the State Constitution. The Legislature elects the members of the Board of Regents, formulates State Education Law, and appropriates funds for the State Education Department and library programs. Library legislation is considered by the Assembly Subcommittee on Libraries (reporting to the Assembly Higher Education Committee) and the Senate Subcommittee on Libraries (reporting to the Senate Education Committee).

The Board of Regents consists of 16 members (one from each of the State's 12 judicial districts, and four elected at large), each elected for a term of seven years. The Commissioner of Education, appointed by the Board of Regents, is the chief educational administrator and President of The University of the State of New York, which encompasses all of the educational activities of the State. The Board of Regents and the Commissioner determine broad policy and standards for all education in New York State.

Under the Deputy Commissioner for Cultural Education, the Assistant Commissioner for Libraries and State Librarian administers the State Library and is the chief library officer for the State. The New York State Library is comprised of two major units: The Library, and the Division of Library Development (which includes the Bureau of Regional Library Services, and the Bureau of Specialist Library Services).

The Bureau of School Library Media Programs is within the Division of General Education, under the Deputy Commissioner for Elementary, Secondary and Continuing Education. Staff of this bureau cooperate with staffs of the bureaus of regional and specialist library services in the library development program. The pilot projects involving school libraries are the responsibility of a Department implementation team headed by the Assistant Commissioner for Libraries, assisted by the Chief of the Bureau of School Library Media Programs and the Director of the Library Division.

The Executive Branch of government includes the Governor and State departments and agencies. The Governor, through the Division of the Budget, prepares the State budget and submits it to the Legislature each January. General oversight of State funds is the responsibility of the Department of Audit and Control, headed by the State Comptroller, an elected official.

The Judicial Branch includes all State courts. The courts may decide legal questions relating to libraries and may decide appeals (under specific circumstances) from decisions of the Commisssioner of Education.

Libraries, Library Systems and Networks

Some 7,700 libraries serve the people of New York State. Many of these libraries are linked with others in resource sharing systems and networks. These libraries have book collections of some 158 million volumes. Brief summary data on the several types of libraries are shown in the following table.

SUMMARY OF LIBRARY STATISTICS — 1982

	Number	Total Volumes	Professional Staff	Support Staff	Total Operating Expenditures	Expenditures Salary	%	Materials	%
Public[a]	727	51,442,784	3,452	6,299	$285,373,885	$184,336,058	65%	$ 42,205,445	15%
Academic[b]	265	54,845,017	2,501	3,466	186,628,378	NA	NA	50,211,416	27%
School[c] — Public	4,144	52,298,256	3,331	1,745	132,528,464	91,255,987	69%	19,405,151	15%
Nonpublic	2,012	9,975,857		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Institution[d]	158	933,003	90	129	2,645,504	1,766,574	67%	462,811	17.5%
Medical[e]	232	NA	366	476	21,771,273	NA	NA	6,511,075	30%
NY State Library[f]	1	1,880,415	96	145	6,570,180	4,043,640	62%	1,346,373	21%
TOTAL	7,539	171,375,332	9,836	12,260	$635,517,684	$281,402,259	44%	$120,142,271	19%

[a] *Public and Association Libraries Statistics 1982*
[b] Preliminary data (Fall 1982) SED Information Center on Education, July 1983
[c] SED Information Center on Education, Public/Nonpublic school library statistics, 1981-82
[d] *Institution Libraries Statistics 1981/82*
[e] *A Directory of Medical Libraries in New York State, 1982*
[f] *New York State Library, 1983 and* 1982-83 ARL Questionnaire
NA Data not available

Public Libraries. The people of New York State are served by 727 chartered public libraries and over 360 branch libraries. Of these chartered libraries, 720 are members of the 22 public library systems. Some 63 percent of the libraries (461) in the State are small, serving fewer than 7,500 population. Only 108 of the libraries (and almost half of these are located on Long Island) serve a population of 25,000 or more. The three public libraries in New York City, (the Brooklyn, New York and Queens Borough Public Libraries) serve more than 40 percent of the population of the State. In 1982 the total public library operating expenditure in New York State was $285 million. The main financial support for public libraries in New York State (an average of 70 percent) comes from local public funds ($201 million in 1982). The average per capita expenditure for public library service (including that for public library systems) in 1982 was $16.25.

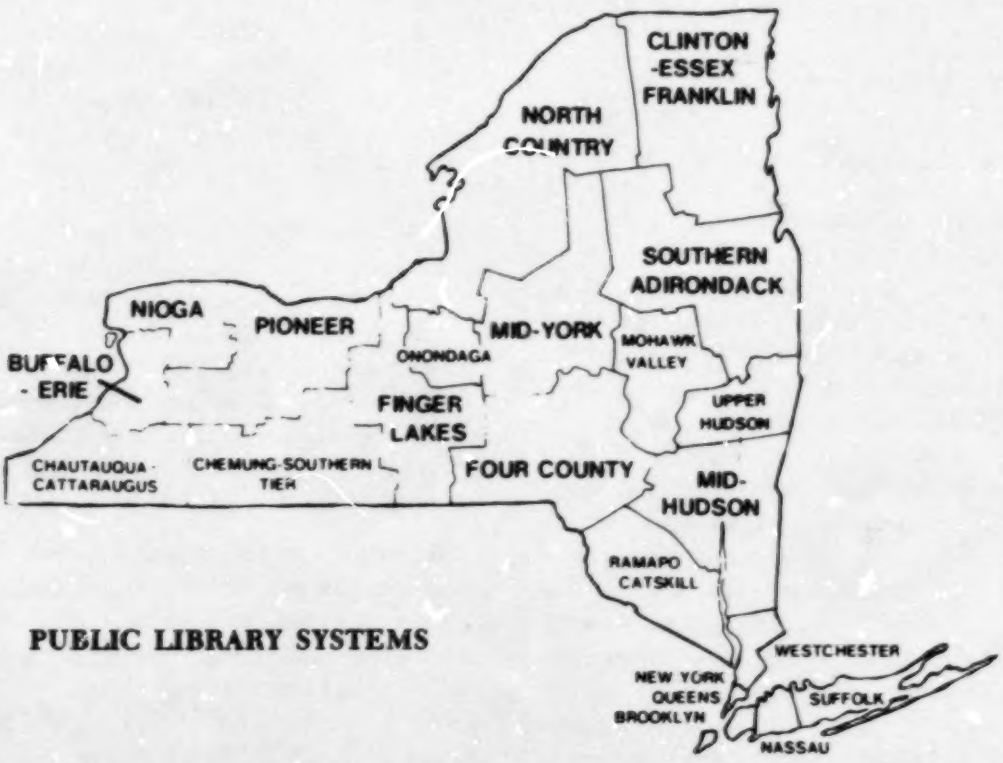
The Regents of The University of the State of New York charter (i.e., incorporate) the public libraries. A library serves a village, town, city, county, school district, a combination of these units, or, in exceptional cases, a special library district established by the Legislature. These libraries are subject to State Education Law and to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education. A board of trustees governs each library, with specific powers and responsibilities under Education Law. Each public library board is autonomous. The four major types of public libraries (and the number in the State) are:

Municipal (205). Created by a village, town, city, or county government. 5–11 trustees appointed by local government.
Association (386). Created by a membership association. Contracts with a unit of government or a school district to provide library services. 5–25 trustees elected by the membership of the association.
School district (124). Created by vote of the school district electorate or a city board of education. 5–11 trustees elected by the voters of the district or appointed by a city board of education.
Special district (12). Created by the State Legislature to serve a part of one or more municipalities. Appointment of trustees varies, depending on the legislation which established the districts.

Public Library Systems. The 22 public library systems authorized by Education Law (dating back to 1950) have as members all but seven of the 727 public libraries in the State. The Board of Regents charters the public library systems which operate under plans of service approved by the Commissioner of Education.

Typical functions of a public library system are: coordination of services and functions through cooperation; extension of service to all parts of the area; cooperative development of central library collections; education and inservice training; experimentation and evaluation; resource sharing through union catalog services, loan of film and video materials, interlibrary loan, interface with NYSILL, and delivery service; and program development.

State support for public library services is made available through the 22 public library systems. In 1983, this support amounted to $37.9 million. Of this sum, $4.2 million was earmarked as local sponsor incentive aid to be shared with all member libraries (the



PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEMS

name of the local sponsor incentive aid program was in 1984 changed to local library incentive aid) and $4.9 million was designated for the central library programs. The remainder was expended by the systems for programs and support services reinforcing local libraries. The statutory formula for state aid to public libraries establishes the amounts which the State Education Department distributes to the systems. The formula includes:

per capita payments	$10.9 million
reimbursement for library materials expenditures	8.1 million
payments based on square miles served	2.1 million
payments based on number of counties served	1.5 million
central library aid	4.9 million
local sponsor incentive aid	4.2 million
earmarked aid for the NYPL Research Libraries	4.7 million
earmarked aid for Brooklyn, Buffalo & Erie, Nassau	.4 million
coordinated outreach	.9 million

System payments in 1983 ranged from $693,563 for Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System (population 161,855) to $9.3 million to The New York Public Library (population served, 2,919,378). The latter payment includes $4.7 million specifically earmarked for the Research Libraries.

There are four types of public library systems in New York State. A *consolidated system* is chartered as a single entity under a board of trustees; all libraries are branches of the main library. These include the Brooklyn Public Library, The New York Public Library and the Queens Borough Public Library.

A *federated system* is created by action of the board or boards of supervisors or legislature of the county or counties involved, while the members (legally chartered libraries) retain their own independent boards. Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System, Onondaga County Public Library and Buffalo-Erie County Public Library are federated library systems.

A *cooperative system* is an association created by agreement of the boards of chartered member libraries which retain their autonomy. There are 14 cooperative systems: Chautauqua-Cattaraugus; Finger Lakes; Four County; Mid-Hudson; Mid-York; Mohawk Valley; Nassau; Nioga; North Country; Ramapo Catskill; Southern Adirondack; Suffolk Cooperative; Upper Hudson; and Westchester.

Chemung-Southern Tier and the Pioneer Systems are sometimes identified as *co-federated* library systems. The Chemung-Southern Tier system was formed as a confederation of the Steele Memorial Library of Chemung County System (a federated system) and the Southern Tier Library System (cooperative). The Pioneer Library System is a confederation of the Livingston (federated), Monroe (federated), Ontario (cooperative), Wayne (federated) and Wyoming (cooperative) county library systems.

Member library boards elect the boards of trustees of cooperative systems. The parent governmental units of consolidated and federated library systems appoint their boards. Each library system has a legally designated central library or co-central libraries from which member libraries receive systemwide reference and interloan services.

Reference and Research Library Resources Systems. Reference and Research Library Resources Systems are regional associations of libraries in publicly supported colleges and universities, special libraries (both in corporate and not-for-profit organizations), and public library systems. The Board

of Regents charters the systems, which operate under plans of service approved by the Commissioner of Education. Boundaries of the systems match those of public library systems. In 1982 State support for these systems was $1.4 million ($155,000 for each system).

A basic goal of these systems is the sharing of resources to meet the reference and information needs of the library user, students and faculty of institutions of higher education, the professions, and others. Among the services the reference and research systems offer are: interlibrary loan; staff education and in-service training; delivery services; improved communication among libraries; production of union lists and bibliographic control programs; microfilming and preservation programs; cooperative use of computer-based systems; reciprocal access; and interface with the New York State Interlibrary Loan System (NYSILL). These systems also coordinate and administer State aid programs such as the hospital library services program and the coordinated collection development program, established by Chapter 718 of the *Laws of 1981*. The coordinated collection development program provides grants totalling just over $1 million to public or nonprofit independent colleges or universities

PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEMS PROFILE I: MEMBERSHIP, RESOURCES AND USE, 1982

System	Type	Population 1980 Census	Square Miles	Number of Counties	Number of Members	Total Holdings	Per Capita Holdings	Total Circ.	Per Capita Circ.
Brooklyn Public	C	2,230,936	70	1	1	3,947,854	1.77	7,157,497	3.20
Buffalo and Erie County	F	1,015,472	1,058	1	24	3,911,917	3.85	5,562,300	5.47
Chautauqua—Cattaraugus	Co	232,622	2,414	2	34	1,089,160	4.68	1,785,854	7.67
Chemung-Southern Tier	Co-F	287,760	3,546	5	36	1,219,761	4.24	1,344,345	4.67
Clinton-Essex-Franklin	F	161,855	4,556	3	28	730,429	4.51	825,008	5.09
Finger Lakes	Co	299,344	2,536	5	29	813,066	2.72	1,436,223	4.79
Four County	Co	368,891	4,094	4	43	1,311,537	3.56	2,288,420	6.20
Mid-Hudson	Co	540,962	2,975	4.8	62	1,330,705	2.42	2,131,281	3.87
Mid-York	Co	385,330	3,319	3	41	1,119,698	2.91	1,566,524	4.06
Mohawk Valley	Co	288,248	1,737	4	13	920,001	3.19	1,294,558	4.49
Nassau	Co	1,321,582	289	1	54	7,512,298	5.68	11,060,274	8.36
New York Public	C				1				
Branch Libraries		2,949,378	121	3		6,029,065	2.04	8,491,584	2.87
Research Libraries		7,071,639[1]	299[1]	5[1]		25,494,561	3.61	—	—
Nioga	Co	325,250	1,429	3	20	1,162,604	3.57	1,570,235	4.82
North Country	Co	341,341	6,317	4	62	1,144,298	3.35	1,510,121	4.42
Onondaga County	F	463,920	794	1	21	1,441,898	3.11	2,493,110	5.37
Pioneer	Co-F	972,629	3,168	5	60	2,953,469	3.04	6,763,108	6.95
Queens Borough	C	1,891,325	108	1	1	7,220,230	3.82	7,850,942	4.15
Ramapo Catskill	Co	615,080	2,499	3.2	46	1,917,701	3.12	3,067,090	4.98
Southern Adirondack	Co	268,442	4,276	4	28	797,324	2.97	1,283,448	4.78
Suffolk Cooperative	Co	1,284,231	929	1	53	5,433,351	4.23	9,341,493	7.27
Upper Hudson	Co	437,875	1,191	2	25	1,317,957	3.01	1,989,449	4.54
Westchester	Co	866,599	443	1	38	4,467,819	5.16	5,855,935	6.75
TOTAL		17,558,072	47,869	62	720	83,286,703	4.74	86,668,802	4.93

[1] not included in totals

C—Consolidated; F—Federated; Co—Cooperative; Co-F—Co-federated

Source: *Public and Association Libraries Statistics, 1982*

New York State Library February 1984

PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEMS PROFILE II: FINANCIAL SUPPORT 1982

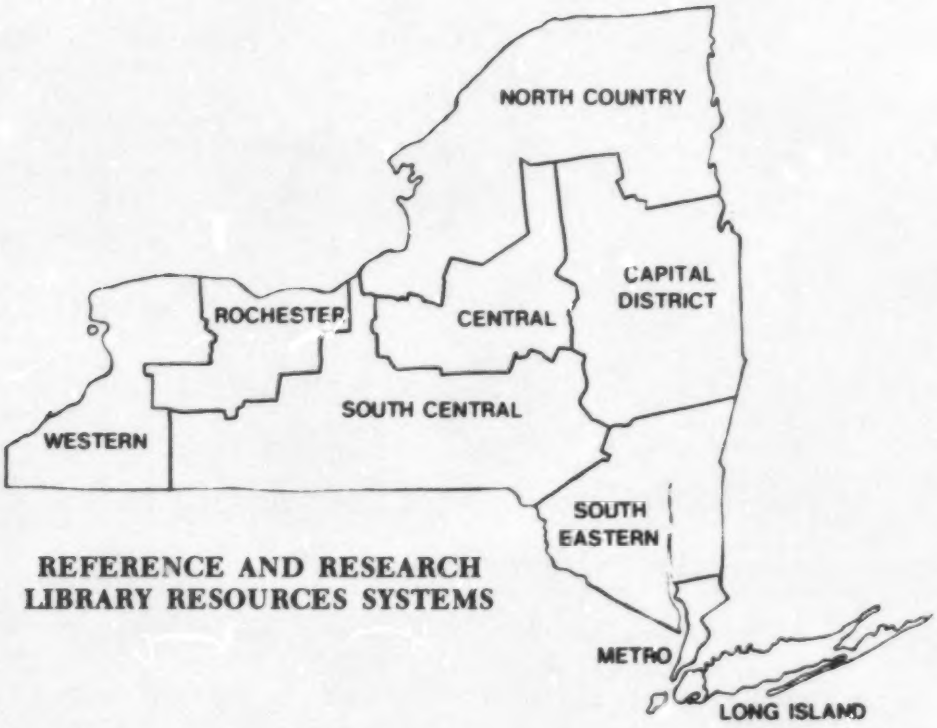
System	Total Support	Per Capita Support	Total Expenditures	Per Capita Expenditures	State Aid	Per Capita State Aid
Brooklyn Public	24,638,120	11.04	24,035,176	10.77	3,918,701	1.76
Buffalo and Erie	14,009,463	13.80	12,862,340	13.65	1,676,101	1.65
Chautauqua-Cattaraugus	2,813,739	12.10	2,841,590	12.21	892,037	3.84
Chemung-Southern Tier	3,038,423	10.56	2,913,707	10.12	657,177	2.28
Clinton-Essex-Franklin	1,676,032	10.36	1,478,741	9.13	769,533	4.75
Finger Lakes	2,652,282	8.86	2,441,898	8.15	828,761	2.77
Four County	4,402,862	11.94	3,887,792	10.53	965,814	2.62
Mid-Hudson	5,124,985	9.32	4,802,588	8.73	1,169,315	2.13
Mid-York	3,022,778	7.85	2,729,698	7.08	1,062,033	2.76
Mohawk Valley	3,065,220	10.63	3,048,904	10.57	772,408	2.68
Nassau	39,134,246	29.61	40,364,509	30.54	2,297,241	1.74
New York Public Library						
Branch Libraries	37,874,459	12.84	37,766,576	12.80	5,202,095	1.76
Research Libraries	31,074,905	4.39	30,617,352	4.32	5,129,418	.73
Nioga	3,550,756	10.92	3,545,868	10.90	755,990	2.32
North Country	3,104,643	9.10	2,892,747	8.47	1,058,848	3.10
Onondaga County	6,294,057	13.57	5,906,552	12.73	894,658	1.93
Pioneer	12,631,225	12.99	12,331,554	12.67	1,894,192	1.95
Queens Borough	25,668,400	13.57	24,342,124	12.87	3,169,639	1.68
Ramapo Catskill	9,630,736	15.66	8,708,561	14.15	1,212,668	1.97
Southern Adirondack	2,253,415	8.39	2,108,250	7.85	839,885	3.13
Suffolk Cooperative	29,121,871	22.68	28,476,429	22.17	2,144,385	1.67
Upper Hudson	5,435,528	12.41	5,027,618	11.48	1,026,878	2.35
Westchester	22,128,267	25.54	20,550,221	23.71	1,540,452	1.78
TOTAL ALL SYSTEMS	292,346,412	16.65	284,680,795	16.21	39,886,229	2.27

Source: *Public and Association Libraries Statistics 1982* New York State Library 1984

located in New York State that agree to share resources through the reference and research libraries.

Nine systems cover the entire State. Their members include all 22 public library systems and about 500 other libraries, including academic and research libraries, special libraries, and hospital and other health agency libraries. Regulations of the Commissioner of Education establish standards of membership. The systems are governed by boards of trustees elected by the membership. These boards include representatives of member libraries, public library systems, and some lay persons from the research community served by the system.

Regional Networks for Intersystem Cooperation. Chapter 787 of the *Laws of 1978* broke new ground in library cooperation by authorizing for the first time the development of school library systems and regional networks to align these new systems with the public library systems and the reference and research library resources systems. The law authorized through June 30, 1984 two pilot regional networks for intersystem cooperation, each including public library systems, the reference and research library resources system, and one or more pilot school library systems. These regional library networks enabled the several types of library systems and their member libraries (college and university, public, school and special) to join together for resource sharing and delivery of services. The two regional networks for intersystem cooperation were INTERSHARE (serving the



REFERENCE AND RESEARCH LIBRARY RESOURCES SYSTEMS

Metropolitan New York City area, including Westchester County) and RARE (serving Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Wayne and Wyoming counties). Union catalogs and lists grew markedly, interlibrary loan activity increased sharply, and delivery systems improved because of the cooperative activities of these two networks.

School Library Media Centers. New York State has an estimated 4,000 school library media centers within the 4,002 school buildings operated by 729 local Boards of Education. While Commissioner's Regulations require libraries in all schools, librarians are required only in secondary schools. Approximately 3,300 school librarians staff the libraries in public schools.

Almost 2.7 million children attend public schools and about .6 million attend nonpublic schools. Approximately 38 percent of the students are in the five largest cities (New York City, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, and Yonkers). Most school districts are relatively small. Only 86 serve 5,000 or more students and 122 serve fewer than 500.

The Regents 1984 *Action Plan to Improve Elementary and Secondary Education Results in New York State* outlines changes in education which will increase the need for quality school library service. The need for new, often expensive, materials to support curriculum and the need to draw from a growing number of information sources now make it impossible for a school library to stand alone. School administrators, teachers, and librarians recognize the need to offer the elementary or secondary school student and teacher more than the resources of one school library and media center. School libraries in New York are developing systems that will make it possible for them to participate effectively in broader-scale resource sharing involving all types of libraries.

In 1978, the State Legislature authorized the creation of pilot school library systems to

PROFILE OF SYSTEMS AND LIBRARIES BY REGION

Intersystem Region/Area	Public Library Systems	Public Library System Members	Pilot School Library Systems	Potential School Library Systems	Academic Libraries	Special and Institution Libraries	Population	Land Area (Square Miles)
Capital-District	3	66	1	4	18	26	994,565	7,158
Central New York	2	62	1	5	14	23	849,250	4,077
Long Island	2	107	—	4	23	79	2,605,813	1,199
Metropolitan	4	41*	3	4	63	67	7,938,238	740
North Country	2	90	1	5	14	37	503,196	10,730
Rochester	1	60	4	5	14	41	972,629	3,140
South Central	3	108	2	8	19	45	955,995	10,078
Southeastern	2	108	—	6	21	49	1,165,042	5,429
Western New York	3	78	—	7	21	68	1,573,344	4,828
Total	22	720	12	48	207	435	17,558,072	47,379

* Does not include 200 branches in the Brooklyn, New York Public, and Queens systems.

test methods for resource sharing. The pilots, based upon the State's 43 Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) and the large city school districts, are located in Rochester, Syracuse, Yonkers, New York City, and in eight BOCES regions. Nonpublic school libraries are eligible to participate in the systems. Because the awarding of grants for these pilot projects was a competitive process, all regions began planning for school library systems and regional networks for intersystem cooperation. Even without pilot project grants, most unsuccessful applicants have continued cooperative planning and resource sharing efforts.

In four years of operation the school library systems have demonstrated, as public libraries had earlier, the effectiveness of the systems concept. Since 1979, the school library systems have shared more than 75,884 books and other materials through interlibrary loan; developed and tested such new services as a telephone "Homework Hotline" and "Library-on-Call"; contributed some 562,000 entries to monographic union catalogs and 8,262 titles to union lists of periodicals; and provided 461,151 students and their teachers in 652 schools with a wider range of materials than any one school can provide.

Twenty-three BOCES and one city school district started union lists of library holdings as part of the 1982 school library system "shoe-string" grant program established under Chapter 718 of the *Laws of 1981*. These union lists locate books, periodicals, and audiovisual materials enabling participating school libraries to share their resources more easily. The "shoe-string" grants and the resulting union lists were another practical step forward in school library system development, building on 12 school library systems and on two intersystem pilot projects authorized under 1978 legislation.

A portion of the Educational Consolidation and Improvement Act, Chapter 2 competitive funds were allocated for "development of programs for effective use of library resources to support instruction through resource sharing." The priority focused on encouraging coordinated collection development among schools and colleges building on existing school library system or "shoe-string" grant projects. Three pilot school library systems and three "shoe-string" grant participants received the grants totalling $200,000.

Institution Libraries. An estimated 100,000 persons are confined in more than 230 public institutions administered by various State agencies, New York City, and the counties. The administrators of these institutions and the agencies of which they are a part determine what library services these institutions provide. There are 169 libraries in State-operated correctional, youth, mental health, and health facilities.

Since 1974, there have been modest annual appropriations for extension of public library system services to local correctional institutions. In 1982–83, these totaled $100,000 and the Governor recommended $175,000 for 1984–85. Chapter 718 of the *Laws of 1981* provided outreach funds to each library system to expand services to blind, physically handicapped, aged and institutionalized persons. Correctional facilities, hospitals, youth facilities, nursing homes, developmental centers, and psychiatric centers are among the institutions benefitting from this new legislation.

College and Universiy Libraries. The library resources of colleges and universities are an important part of the State's total library resources. New York State has more institutions of higher education than any other state except California and has the second largest student enrollment. Sixty-nine percent of high school graduates continue their education. In 1983, there were 249 degree granting institutions of higher education in the State, of which 83 were public, 138 independent, and 28 proprietary. More than a million persons are enrolled in these institutions on a full-time or part-time basis. Of the total student body, 56 percent attend public institutions, and 44 percent attend independent and proprietary institutions. When divided according to graduate and undergraduate enrollments, almost 32 percent of the graduate students, 17 percent of the first-professional degree students, and about 62 percent of the undergraduates attend public institutions.

Academic library holdings total almost 55 million* volumes. Of these, almost 68.5 percent are held by institutions in the independent sector, and almost 33 percent are held by public institutions. Eight university libraries in New York State (Columbia, Cornell, New York University, Rochester, Syracuse, SUNY Albany, SUNY Buffalo, and SUNY Stony Brook) meet the standards of the Association of Research Libraries (The New York Public Library and the New York State Library are also ARL members).

The State University of New York (SUNY) is one of two major public higher education systems in the State. Founded in 1948, the SUNY system consists of 4 university centers, 2 health sciences centers, 13 colleges of arts and sciences, 4 specialized colleges, 5 statutory colleges administered in cooperation with Cornell University and Alfred University, 6 agricultural and technical colleges, and 30 locally sponsored community colleges. In fall 1983, almost 383,000 students were enrolled in SUNY.

The State University is governed by a Board of Trustees (appointed by the Governor) which determines the policies to be followed by the 34 State-supported campuses. The community colleges are governed by local boards of trustees. A central administrative unit provides coordinated direction of services to all units of the University. This includes an office for the coordination of SUNY library services.

Suny library holdings include over 13 million volumes.

The City University of New York (CUNY) dates from 1847, when the people of New York City established by referendum the Free Academy. The seven municipal colleges became The City University of New York in 1961. The CUNY system (19 units located throughout the five boroughs of metropolitan New York) consists of nine four-year colleges,

* FY 1981–82 data; latest available; excludes proprietary.

eight two-year colleges, a graduate school and university center, and a school of law. In fall 1983, CUNY enrollment totalled almost 181,000 students.

The City University's governing body is a Board of Trustees. Ten members are appointed by the Governor, and five by the Mayor of the City of New York, all with the advice and consent of the Senate.

CUNY library holdings number over 4.5 million volumes.

The 138 independent colleges and universities of New York are independent educational institutions, each with a charter from the Board of Regents or the Legislature and each with its own board of trustees. They include 10 universities, 62 colleges, 8 engineering and technical schools, 19 health science centers and specialized colleges, 23 two-year colleges and 16 seminaries. The fall 1982 enrollment for the independent colleges and universities was over 406,000.

There are, in addition, 28 proprietary colleges (proprietary colleges are private profit-making institutions which provide training in specific skills) such as the Laboratory Institute of Merchandising and the Jamestown Business College. All but two are two-year schools. Almost 30,000 students were enrolled in these schools in fall 1983.

Library holdings of independent colleges and universities include over 36 million volumes, and holdings of the proprietary schools include some 90,000 volumes.

The Regents 1980 *Statewide Plan for the Development of Postsecondary Education* sets objectives for achievement by 1990. It plans for the development of human resources, the strengthening of New York's economy and the effective use of the State's resources including library resources. The objectives specifically address library collection development, increased bibliographic access to library resources, provision of library user instruction, computer literacy and expanded regional interlibrary loan. In preparation for the 1984 *Statewide Plan*, the Regents have identified 17 issues to be addressed in the 1980's. These are in the areas of excellence, access, diversity, and the effective use of resources. Inevitably, several of these affect academic library resources and services. The Regents 1984 *Statewide Plan. . .* will be completed in the fall of 1984.

State Appropriations for Higher Education, FY 1983–84

	(in millions)
SUNY	$1,061.9
CUNY	469.1
Community Colleges	203.1
Bundy Aid	95.7
Medical/Dental Capitation	16.5
College work-study Reimbursement	4.7
Programs for the Disadvantaged	50.4
Student Aid	353.4
Other	29.4
Total	$2,311.2

New York State Interlibrary Loan. The New York State Interlibrary (NYSILL) program, established in 1967, is a computerized library network that assures access to research libraries. Library users may gain access to NYSILL through any local library which will forward requests through a library system. The New York State Library serves as a central resource and referral center for the NYSILL network. The 10 resource libraries to which it refers unfilled requests are:

American Museum of Natural History
Buffalo and Erie County Public Library
Columbia University
Cornell University
Engineering Societies Library
New York Academy of Medicine
The New York Public Library
New York University
Teachers College
Union Theological Seminary

The NYSILL telecommunications network provides an interface with the Regional Medical Library (RML) network and the Metropolitan Inter-Library Cooperation System (MILCS). A developing NYSILL microcomputer network provides several sites online access to the State Library's online catalog.

A NYSILL User Advisory Group was appointed in 1981 to make recommendations for improving NYSILL services and to express the concerns of users of the network. Delivery service has been improved through use of commerical carriers and cooperation with SUNY/OCLC.

OCLC. OCLC (Online Computer Library Center), is a computer system serving libraries from its headquarters in Dublin, Ohio. This shared bibliographic system offers a variety of library and information services and serves 3,400 libraries in 50 states, Canada, Mexico and Great Britain. Some 236 of the libraries are in New York State. OCLC, Inc. began in 1969 as a not-for-profit educational consortium with the objectives of holding down library cost and increasing the availability of resources. Academic libraries, public library systems, school libraries, and State agency libraries are among OCLC participants.

OCLC services are generally made available through regional networks. In New York State, the State University of New York contracts with OCLC in behalf of all types of libraries and the Director of Library Services of the SUNY Central Administration provides training and related network services. The system is self-supporting through fees charged the member libraries. The SUNY/OCLC network director is advised by a ten-member State University of New York Network Advisory Committee (SONAC).

Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN). Five libraries in New York, including four of the largest research libraries, now participate in the Research Libraries Information Network. RLIN members are Columbia University, Cornell University, The New York Public Library, New York University, and SUNY Binghamton. Their combined holdings exceed 42 million volumes.

Government Documents Depository Libraries. The variety and scope of government documents of all jurisdictions offer libraries a rich source of acquisitions to meet the entire range of community needs. Improved awareness of and access to these publications have a high priority.

The State Library (a Regional Depository for Federal publications) and the 91 selective depositories within New York State have developed a coordinated state plan for Federal Depository library service. Elements of the plan are collection and staff development, regional cooperative acquisitions and retention, improved communications and bibliographic awareness among depositories, strengthened on-site and interlibrary loan services, and greater emphasis on publicizing the availability of Federal information.

Ninety-nine libraries in New York State are depositories for publications of New York State government. Libraries in the depository program are chosen on the basis of location and for their ability to maintain a documents collection and make it available to the public. As a result, every New York State resident can consult State government publications in a nearby library or borrow them through interlibrary loan.

Health Information Library Services. The federally funded Regional Medical Library (RML) network, operating under a contract between the New York Academy of Medicine and the National Library of Medicine, provides access to specialized health information resources in the Northeast (RML Region I). In New York State, five libraries serve as Resource Libraries: Columbia University Health Sciences Library, the Medical Library Center of New York, the New York Academy of Medicine, State University at Buffalo Health Sciences Library, and the State University Upstate Medical Center Library. In

addition, five other New York State libraries serve as Area Libraries in the RML network: Albany Medical College Library, Medical Research Library of Brooklyn, New York Medical College at Westchester, SUNY at Stony Brook Health Sciences Library, and The University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry Library.

All of these libraries have direct access to the State Library's online catalog and the NYSILL telecommunications system through microcomputer terminals. During 1982/83 these libraries received 64,296 interlibrary loan requests for health information materials. Of these requests, 46,440 were filled and 7,778 were referred to other libraries. Because the New York Academy of Medicine also serves as a resource library in the NYSILL network, NYSILL requests not filled by the Academy may be switched to RML resource libraries in other states and the National Library of Medicine; RML libraries in New York State may access NYSILL directly.

Under Chapter 718 of the *Laws of 1981*, the New York State Library entered into a contract with the New York Academy of Medicine to purchase Library Service Coupons for use by the Reference and Research Library Resources Systems. These coupons are used to obtain interlibrary loan services from subcontracting libraries in the RML program. Coupons are allocated by the State Library among the reference and research library systems using a formula based on the number of health-related institutions in each region and according to an approved distribution plan developed by each system.

The purpose of this program is to improve access to health information in New York State, make the resources of the RML network directly accessible to libraries in the reference and research library regions, encourage the full use of local and regional health information resources before accessing other resources in the RML and NYSILL networks, and facilitate referrals to the most appropriate locations in both networks.

In addition, each reference and research library resources system is developing a program to provide services to rural hospital libraries enabling these libraries to meet standards established by the Regents, and to participate in resource sharing networks.

Constraints on Library Services and Priority Needs

Financial. The great volume and variety of New York State's library resources should not disguise the serious financial problems of libraries. The New York City metropolitan area contains one of the four largest concentrations of library resources in the world; yet a few branches of the Brooklyn and New York public libraries offer service only 20 hours a week because of limited funds. Constraints in New York City's school and college budgets have resulted in erosion of library support. Upstate New York also has impressive library collections and services, but many schools and communities are unable to provide materials to meet all the needs of their users.

To ensure adequate access to information resources and services for all residents of New York State, libraries and library systems require additional State, local, and Federal support. Although libraries have traditionally offered their services at no charge to users, the cost of providing such new services as computer data base searches, is causing a reevaluation of this policy. Static budgets are forcing libraries to spend less on materials as rising costs in other areas absorb larger percentages of their budgets. Today it is not uncommon for a public library to spend more for fuel than for library materials.

In 1982, the total public library expenditure from all sources was over $285 million, making the average public library expenditure per capita, exclusive of capital expendi-

tures, $16.25. Per capita support at the local level ranges from 91¢ in Branchport (Yates County) to $217.57 in Hennelton (St. Lawrence County). One out of ten public libraries in 1982 expended less than $5,000 for its entire operation, materials, salaries, utilities, and building maintenance.

Funding for the Federal Library Services and Construction Act is low in relation to need, and is inadequate to meet the goals stated in the statute.

Legal. The Federal Library Services and Construction Act and its Federal regulations establish requirements, limit the use of funds to specific purposes, and set general boundaries of use. New York State's Education Law and other State laws also establish the boundaries within which libraries and systems must operate, the standards and requirements they must meet, and their legal structure.

Political. At all levels of government, priorities, pressures, agreements, compromises, and other realities of the American political system affect libraries in their funding, development, functions and areas of service.

Resources. Libraries are confronted by new technology which is fundamentally changing their services and operations; at the same time they cope with a greatly increased volume of published materials, an expanding variety of forms of media, and inflation in the cost of published materials. Rapid advances in computer technology, automation, and telecommunications are transforming methods of handling and transferring information. These changes require library investment in equipment and software for new services, increased attention to in-service training of library personnel, and additional qualified personnel for specialized positions. At the same time, the need for additional staff for traditional services should not be overlooked.

A large number of libraries lack adequate physical facilities. To make libraries accessible to handicapped persons as required by State and Federal law will require remodeling, rehabilitation, and the modification of many buildings. Many libraries require changes to make them more energy-efficient. Many libraries are planning new construction or remodeling, but most lack the funds to build or to make the required modifications. Most of the facilities for institution libraries need improvement.

Needs. The following delineate six needs identified in discussions with the Advisory Council: (1) Provide adequate library service to those without it; (2) improve service, and access to that service, to those with currently inadequate service; (3) improve service, and access to that service, for groups with special needs: (a) economically and culturally disadvantaged persons, (b) blind and physically handicapped persons, (c) institutionalized persons, (d) persons who do not speak English or those for whom English is a second language, and (e) elderly persons; (4) increase efficiency and effectiveness of libraries through resource sharing and the use of technology; (5) test, demonstrate and evaluate new services leading to new locally supported services; and (6) improve the State Library as a development and statewide service agency.

Goals

Regents policy on libraries affirms that every resident of New York State should enjoy timely and free access, through local libraries working wihin library systems, to a full range of informational resources and services, provided without restriction of censorship or violation of privacy.

"Free access" means access without regard to the age, sex, cultural or ethnic background, or other personal characteristics of the user. It means, as well, accommodating disabled persons and others through outreach programs and adaptation of services. In

publicly financed and publicly operated libraries, access to informational resources should be provided free of cost to the user, except for modest and equitable fees charged for special service alternatives.

Providing access and services to meet the information, education, cultural, and recreational needs of all the people of the State requires a comprehensive program involving all types of libraries. Different types of libraries have evolved to meet the variety of needs of the State's men, women, and children. These include public, academic (community college, college, and university), school, speical (business, government, and organization), and institution libraries. Through systems and networks these diverse resources become accessible to the greatest number of people. The sharing of resources by all libraries (public, academic, school special, and institution) within the State through local, regional, and State partnerships is encouraged through regional and State level system development. Because no single library or region contains everything that a library user might require, the State created and is continuing to develop the New York State Interlibrary Loan Network. Thrugh this network, public, academic, medical, institution and business libraries, irrespective of size or location, have access to library resources throughout the State.

Extending this basic State goal are those more specific purposes stated in the Federal Library Services and Construction Act (as amended by Public Law 91–600, 93–380, and 95–123). Those under Title I are: the improvement of public library service and the elimination of inadequacies to those not fully served; improvement of library service in State institutions; expansion and improvement of library programs for the blind and physically handicapped; strengthening of metropolitan public libraries which play essential roles in regional service; and strengthening the State Library's coordinating, development, and support services.

The purpose of Title II is to assist in the construction of public library buildings, and enactment of Public Law 98–8 provides funds for this program. This Act establishes a priority for library construction in areas with high unemployment.

The purpose of Title III is to establish and maintain local, regional, State, or interstate cooperative networks of libraries for the systematic and effective coordination of the resources of school, public, academic, and special libraries and special information centers.

Library planners have developed objectives for these goals. Implicit in these goals are two principles: that the people of New York State may use more than one type of library, and that all libraries are interdependent. Nine objectives are stated and described in part of this document. They are:

Local Service
Library Systems
Service for Blind and Physically Disabled Persons
Service for Adult Learners
Service for Residents of Institutions
Effective Use of Technology
Physical Facilities
School Library Services
State Library Services

Some factors that influence these objectives are: the priorities of the Regents as related to libraries; Federal priorities under the Library Services and Construction Act; library and information needs of users; the status of ongoing programs in their various phases of implementation; and the current economic environment with constraints on local, State and Federal fiscal resources.

Library Services and Construction Act program documents are reviewed by Education Department officers and staff to ensure coordination with programs of other educational institutions. Participation in such reviews by members of the Office of Higher and Professional Education, The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, and Elementary,

Secondary and Continuing Education, and the Office of Cultural Education results in technical assistance, consultation, and joint program development. Six-, nine-, and twelve-month reports are required from each agency receiving an LSCA Title I or Title III grant. These are reviewed by Library Development staff (and are available to the Advisory Council which systematically evaluates a group of projects each year), often in conjunction with site visits. These reports and Advisory Council review form the basis for the annual narrative report to the U.S. Department of Education. The narrative is also printed in *The Bookmark* and is widely distributed.

Nine Library Program Objectives

New York State has an enormous range of library services, resources and operations. The following are nine broad objectives or programs for assuring all residents of New York State convenient free access to library services. The order in which they appear does not indicate priority.

1. Quality service for all persons in their local communities.

The residents of New York State have a right to receive good library service in their home communities. In seeking information, users may start at a number of different points. The usual point of access for the person not enrolled in a formal course of education is a public library or branch library. Students usually turn first to a school or academic library. Serious business, research, or management information needs are often taken to a corporate library. When each library operated independently, each information seeker had to go from library to library. Today, by channeling materials and information from one library to another, the network of libraries can bring the resources of the State to the local community.

Those persons who are economically disadvantaged or who face cultural, physical, or psychological barriers may need special help in the use of library services. Some 5.6 million persons over the age of 16 lack a high school diploma or the equivalent. The 1980 Census determined that 13.4 percent of the State's population lives below the poverty level. Economically disadvantaged people are both concentrated in urban areas and scattered throughout suburban and rural areas of the State. For many New Yorkers, English is not a first language. In 1980, more than 20 percent of the 9 million residents of The New York City Metropolitan area were foreign born, and some 25 major languages from Arabic to Yiddish were spoken by 30 percent of the residents of that area.

Libraries ought to serve both traditional and new users. To do this they often employ special or outreach techniques for making contact with potential users. The term traditional user has been employed to describe library users in the general population served by a library or library system. Within this population there are people who are considered special clientele (for example, local government officials, operators of small businesses, or persons fluent in both English and foreign languages) for whom the library may make a special effort.

Library outreach services are programs specifically designed to reach and serve urban and rural persons who may be physically, mentally, or educationally disadvantaged, people who are institutionalized in government or nongovernment facilities; and those people who are isolated by cultural differences and geographical distances. These outreach services generally attempt to restore balance and equity in library service to those people who may have suffered racial and other discrimination.

To implement this objective the State Library, directly or through library systems, will:

a. Provide to local libraries of all types information on the resources available to their users (current and potential) through library networking.

b. Continue to seek legislation favorable to library development in the State.

c. Strengthen services to persons with limited English-speaking ability by continuing to identify such users (and potential users) and providing programs and resources, including nonprint materials, for their use.

d. Provide materials and services designed to help functionally illiterate persons begin to use libraries.

e. Provide materials and services to disadvantaged persons.

f. Encourage libraries to seek out and serve minority persons.

g. Promote the development of business and financial information centers in public libraries by annually funding, through 1989, pilot projects for such centers in strategically located public libraries.

h. Increase efforts to reach potential users.

2. Improvement of library systems, their resource libraries, and further development of intersystem cooperation, making it possible for libraries of all types to serve their users more completely, efficiently, and effectively.

More than thirty years of library system development in New York State, starting with public library systems and reference and research library resources systems, and now including pilot programs for school library systems and regional networks for intersystem cooperation, have demonstrated the value of building upon the strength of existing institutions, shared development and use of resources, and imaginative program development.

Since 1979, State-funded pilot programs have enabled planners to evaluate realistically what problems must be overcome and what fiscal resources will be needed for the development of school library systems and regional networks for intersystem cooperation. The aim of such regional development is to provide needed resources and services, from basic to the most advanced, through the user's primary library, whether that library is a school, public, academic, special, industrial, or research library.

The Commissioner's Committee on Statewide Library Development has recommended that systems of all types review and redefine their missions in terms of emerging user needs and technological development. The Committee also defined the following principles for resource sharing:

- Each library in the State should have access to other collections in the State.
- Interlibrary loan and other types of resource sharing are integral parts of library systems and networks.
- Regional resource sharing provides a sound basis for interlibrary loan activity.
- Clear standards for interlibrary loan network performance are needed.
- Communications technology and computer-based data storage techniques should be used for efficient resource sharing.
- Data base development should be monitored for adherence to technical standards.
- Access to the several national data bases and to the diversity of services they offer are in the interest of New York State.
- A State-supported network should make optimum use of prior public investment in resources and should provide incentives for using nonreimbursed resources and services before turning to reimbursed resources.
- State reimbursement for interlibrary loans is an appropriate mechanism for assuring access to statewide collections.
- Successful resource sharing depends

upon the strength of library collections in the participating libraries.

Recommendations based upon these principles include pursuit of interfaces among interlibrary loan networks, redesign of the NYSILL network to accommodate point-to-point access and to distribute loan requests more evenly, and expanded attention to continuing education required to meet the needs of tomorrow's libraries for personnel with the knowledge, competencies, and skills needed to participate in technological development and to provide more responsive library and information services.

The New York State union list of serials is being developed as a coordinated statewide program to build a machine-readable data base based on the CONSER (*Con*version of *Ser*ials) project. A complete record of the holdings of the newspapers of New York State will be developed cooperatively in a newspaper bibliographic and preservation program. The development of a statewide retrospective data base of monograph holdings will be accelerated.

Public Law 95–123 amended Title I of the Federal Library Services and Construction Act to earmark funds for the strengthening of public libraries which serve as major urban resource libraries. These libraries fill an important place in the proper functioning of any major system or network. Public libraries in New York State which qualify for assistance under this program are the Albany Public Library, Brooklyn Public Library, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, The New York Public Library, Queens Borough Public Library, Rochester Public Library, Onondaga County Public Library (Syracuse), and Yonkers Public Library.

To encourage development of an efficient and effective system of libraries in New York, the State Library will:

a. Encourage cooperative programs that enable systems to provide needed resources and services to member libraries.
b. Seek additional State funds for support of library systems and for strengthening the research collections of the major research libraries participating as resource libraries in the NYSILL program.
c. Conduct a systematic review of public library system plans of service to examine current practices, update when appropriate, and suggest options for the future.
d. Strengthen regional resource sharing through the reference and research library resources systems and pilot networks and examine appropriate methods of integrating their functions.
e. Cooperate with public library systems, library educators, and other appropriate groups to assess continuing education needs and carry out recommendations of the Statewide Continuing Library Education Advisory Committee.
f. Strengthen major urban resource libraries as Federal funds become available.
g. Reexamine the NYSILL program, establish links with RLIN and OCLC, and make recommendations for future network development.
h. Expand point-to-point interlibrary loan access and test remote use of the State Library's online catalog.
i. Use the services of the NYSILL User Advisory Group effectively.

3. Improved service to disabled persons

Physical disabilities affecting vision, hearing, mobility, or perception should not limit the quality of library service available to users. Meeting the objective of improved service to disabled persons requires access to information resources in special formats which provide disabled persons with the same wide variety of subjects, points of view, and comprehension levels available to other

library patrons. Special equipment (record players, cassette players, reading machines, and low vision aids), special materials (braille, recorded disc and tape cassettes) and the adaptation of physical structures make libraries accessible to disabled persons.

The New York Public Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, serving readers in the five boroughs of New York City and Long Island, and the New York State Library for the Blind and Visually Handicapped, serving readers in 55 upstate counties, are the two regional libraries in the State designed to serve disabled users. Public libraries and other local community agencies are important points of contact for this service. They can identify potential users, provide readers advisory services, introduce users to such conventional services as telephone reference, and audio collections, and provide intermediary contact between the local user and the regional libraries. Public library systems can also sponsor such local or regional programs as radio reading service for blind and visually handicapped persons.

The special information needs of disabled persons need to be better understood and addressed by all types of libraries. Opportunities to learn about these needs must be made available to library staff. Collections should include the special resource materials which persons with impaired vision, or hearing or other physical disabilities, persons with learning disabilities, and their families require to meet daily living needs. Library systems must make commitments to library users with impaired hearing through outreach programs involving staff with special communications skills, special materials, and new telephone/teletype written communications systems.

To meet this commitment the State Library will:

a. Encourage use of regional library services to blind and visually handicapped persons.
b. Strengthen lines of communication between the regional libraries and other libraries, agencies and patrons
c. Ensure maximum use of the network of 38 Kurzweil reading machines by assisting libraries in developing programs for their use.
d. Maintain a full range of services and a strong collection of special media materials for blind and visually handicapped persons.
e. Cooperate with agencies which serve hearing impaired persons to provide to library systems information about deafness and its implications, along with resource materials to help meet the library information needs of persons with hearing impairment.

4. Improved service to adult learners and others who use or could use the library as a resource for general, cultural or vocational education.

Each year more adults are involved in independent learning to keep their education from becoming obsolete as fields of knowledge change rapidly and as they see a continuing need to improve and increase their knowledge in relation to their jobs. Development of programs such as the Regents College Degrees, Empire State College, and the University Without Walls have made it possible to obtain a college degree largely through independent study without attending formal, on-campus programs; these students are already making added demands on their local public libraries.

Greater numbers of adults are enrolled part time in continuing education programs at secondary and postsecondary levels, sponsored by local school districts, BOCES, and two- or four-year colleges. Whether preparing for high school equivalency examinations or enrolled in postsecondary programs, many part-time students find the public library to be an accessible and important resource. Libraries provide programs and

resources to persons interested in: attaining basic literacy skills, or obtaining career planning and employment opportunity information. These needs are identified and met through Job and Education Information Centers and adult literacy programs.

The 1976 Amendments to the Higher Education Act authorized the Education Information Center Program, and required the states to develop comprehensive plans to provide educational information, guidance, and referral services on the postsecondary level for all individuals. Federal funds were discontinued but the development of education and career information and advisory services for adults has continued with the help of a generous grant from the W.K. Kellog Foundation. An evaluation was completed in 1983, and in 1984 State funds were authorized for the program. New York State has given special attention to the public library as a delivery system for these services. Factors that make the public library a particularly appropriate service delivery point include (1.) its neutrality, (2.) its established identity as a community information center, (3.) its ability to classify, store and retrieve large quantities of information, (4.) accessibility, and (5.) prolonged hours of service to the general public.

Each of the seven EIC sites serves special populations in addition to serving the general public. Among those targeted are the economically disadvantaged, persons whose language is other than English, the rurally isolated, and disabled persons. Thirty-five percent of the persons served enroll in an education program or find employment. These sites serve as models useful to other libraries in providing education and career information to adults.

Public libraries have always provided reader advisory services, either formally or informally, but new demands of users are requiring that librarians acquire greater skill and knowledge in assisting the adult learner. To meet these demands the State Library will:

a. Provide technical and consultant services to public libraries, emphasizing staff development and continuing library education directed at improving adult services.
b. Identify and secure additional sources of funding to assist local libraries to improve and increase services to adult learners
c. Encourage cooperation among libraries and other cultural and educational institutions and community-based organizations.
d. Seek State support to institutionalize and expand the EIC program.

5. Development of library service to residents of institutions.

Institutionalized persons need convenient free access to library services to meet their needs for information, education, and recreation. Most institution libraries are inadequate to help residents adjust successfully to self and society. Most institution residents have no direct access to libraries serving the general public. Institution residents also have speical needs and interests and require specialized library materials and services, including materials in Spanish and other languages and in nonprint formats. Institution libraries need strong support from public library systems and member libraries, and they need the capability to tie into NYSILL and other networks.

Special State appropriations for institution library service have been used to assist public libraries in providing additional service to residents of local institutions, including "books-by-mail" programs and interlibrary loan. In addition, projects have been developed under LSCA Title I.

An effective program for institution library service will require adequate support from the agencies which administer the institutions, staffing at the institution level, and full

participation by institution libraries in the mainstream of library networking.

The State Library will:

a. Provide staff assistance and consultant service for the planning and development of institution library programs, emphasizing basic support from the agencies which administer the institutions and backup services from the agencies and library systems.
b. Provide information on effective institution library services and disseminate information throught conferences and workshops.

6. Effective use of technology to improve services and efficiency.

Rapid technological change has affected and will continue to affect all aspects of library service and library systems. Libraries are changing as they add materials in new formats (microforms, videotapes and video discs, and computer programs for self-instruction) to their collections. Library staffs are being reshaped and different personnel needs are being created as machines perform more clerical and professional tasks. Today's communications technology and computer-based storage and retrieval techniques make possible more rapid and efficient resource sharing. They also create the possibility of increased competition from a growing number of private providers of electronic information services.

Basic to the application of technology to library operations is the conversion of library catalogs to machine readable format. Once library catalogs have been converted, automated acquisitions, accounting and circulation subsystems may be added to create an integrated system for collection management. Such a system may be shared by many libraries in a region. For resource sharing purposes, regional systems should be linked to create a statewide network with links to national networks like RLIN and OCLC.

As the initial move in building such a computer-based statewide network, Federal grant funds are being used for retrospective conversion of monographic catalogs and union lists of serials, for further development of a prototype regional system, and for network coordination. Standards have been established for these projects and will be amplified as construction of the network progresses.

The State Library must work with the libraries of New York State to achieve the greatest economies and benefits from the use of technology. Cooperation is needed to help libraries make cost-effective choices from the great variety of new equipment, materials, and systems now available; to ensure access for all library users to new instructional media and online reference tools; and to make certain that compatible systems for resource sharing are developed.

A plan has been developed to establish direction for future statewide technological development and to assure efficient use of limited resources. To accomplish this, the State Library will:

a. Develop access to statewide bibliographic locator files which will include both monographs and serials, and which will build on existing machine-readable data.
b. Provide libraries of all types, size, and location access to all parts of the data base, wherever stored.
c. Develop and encourage links to all national networks serving libraries in New York State.
d. Seek legislation and funds for a research and engineering study to plan and design the technological component of a coordinated resource-sharing and document-delivery system.
e. Seek legislation and funds to set standards and guidelines to ensure the compatibility of publicly funded automated systems.

f. Encourage and assist libraries of all types to make appropriate use of computers, including the experimental use and testing of new technological applications.

7. Construction and renovation of library facilities to improve service in systems and member public libraries and to provide access for the physically handicapped.

Many library buildings are too small or are outdated. Changes in service programs and information technology are creating demands that existing library buildings lacking space, flexibility, adequate electrical wiring, and climate control cannot meet. Library buildings generally need modification to make them energy efficient and to remove architectural barriers that limit access by persons with physical handicaps.

Data supplied by public libraries indicate that it would cost a minimum of $89 million* to provide adequate public library physical facilities throughout the State. Two types of funding are needed: grants for planning, and funds to provide incentive and equalization support to local libraries. State-level and system-level planning in relation to physical facilities is needed to gain maximum value for construction expenditures and avoid possible overbuilding. Both State and Federal funds will be required to narrow the gap between need and present inadequate facilities. Thirteen construction projects were made possible in 1983 because of enactment of Public Law 98–8 which provided Federal funds for LSCA Title II. These grants were made for library construction in areas of high unemployment (pages 1–4 of the LSCA Title I *Annual Program Statement*, FY 1983 are incorporated in the *Long-Range Program*).

* This figure is less than that given last year because some library boards filing letters-of-intent did not provide a cost figure and because some projects have been funded within the last year, and therefore have been removed from the list.

To overcome the problem of inadequate facilities, the State Library will:

a. Seek State aid legislation for library construction, renovation and/or modification of public library buildings.
b. Use Federal LSCA Title II and other funds as available to assist library construction and renovation.
c. Conduct an annual construction needs assessment within the State.

8. Improved school library media service to students and teachers.

School libraries are an integral part of the school program, and, as such, support the educational and instructional program of the elementary and secondary schools, providing students with the skills and attitudes needed to become lifelong users of libraries. Children who have the opportunity to read widely in areas of interest to them and at a comfortable level of difficulty can improve their reading, visual, and analytical skills. They will not be able to benefit from the extensive resources of libraries as adults if they have not learned the necessary techniques of research and inquiry. The goal of lifelong learning and the success of adult independent learners depends heavily on the quality of library experiences in the formative years.

State funds have been provided to support pilot projects establishing, for the first time, school library systems to strengthen individual school library programs and to interact with the established public library systems and the reference and research library resources systems. "Shoe-string" grants in 1981-82 enabled potential school library systems to take practical steps toward resource sharing. Six resource sharing grants designed to encourage cooperation between school libraries and colleges were launched in 1982 as part of the Federal Educational Consolidation and Improvement Act (ECIA) program.

The continued development and improvement of school library services require increased Federal, State, and local support for the employment of certified school library media specialists to serve students, teachers and administrators in all schools, the acquisition of school library media resources, and the expansion of school library systems.

To improve school library media service, the State Library will:

a. Foster cooperation between school and public libraries by encouraging school library involvement in pilot project programs.
b. Seek legislation and funds to convert pilot school library systems to statutory-based systems and develop systems in other areas of the State.
c. Strengthen liaison between the Bureau of School Library Media Programs and the Library Development Division.
d. Sponsor school/public library conferences to disseminate information on topics of current interest to library personnel.

9. Strengthening of the resources and services of the State Library to assure (a) the highest quality reference and research library service to the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches of State government; (b) efficient and effective interlibrary loan, networking, support and specialized library services to libraries and clienteles; and (c) planning, coordination, leadership and State financial participation in the provision of library service to all people of New York State.

Effective access by all State residents to information resources requires coordinated planning, the full use of sophisticated technology, an administrative center for the statewide information and interlibrary loan network, strong collections of information materials, and well-educated staffs. Each level of library service responsibilities must be identified and the State Library should assist in this process. The relationship of individual libraries to regional networks and the role of regional networks in statewide resource sharing require definition and coordination at the State level.

Development and improvement of library services statewide require consultant, specialist, and administrative staff in the Library Development Bureaus and the Administration Unit for work with libraries, systems, networks, government agencies, professional organizations, and users. The State Library agency must strengthen its capacity in the collection and analysis of statistics for measurement and evaluation, develop appropriate continuing education programs, and develop effective communication with all types of libraries and organizations concerned with library, information, cultural, and educational services.

For the Library, priority is given to those programs and services which it can uniquely provide as the research library for the government and people of the State, as a statewide resource and administrative center for the interloan network and as a regional resource for the blind and visually handicapped.

For the Library Development Bureaus, priority is placed upon the provision of staff with special skills capable of providing services usually not found at, or appropriate to, local or regional levels of service. Library Development staff provide leadership and support in areas such as organization, management, planning, evaluation, technology, continuing education, and service to special clienteles.

To implement this program, the State Library will:

a. Use the 4.5 million-item State Library collection, the resources of 13 referral libraries and a computer-based telecommunications network to improve statewide network performance and to fill

requests not satisfied by regional systems.

b. Maintain collection and staff strengths at the Library which will insure timely and effective response to interlibrary loan requests.

c. Use new techniques to improve network performance and provide access to information resources (such as computerized data bases) which are too costly or too new to be available as local resources in all areas.

d. Support statewide public information programs designed to increase awareness of library services.

e. Seek State funds for services heavily dependent upon LSCA funds.

f. Provide consultant service and staff assistance for planning and development of library services.

g. Emphasize the review of plans of service as a means of exercising more current and systematic planning and evaluation.

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SUMMARY OF LIBRARY STATISTICS—1983

	Number	Total Volumes	Professional Staff	Support Staff	Total Operating Expenditures	Expenditures Salary	%	Materials	%
Public[a]	730	52,543,799	3,559	6,460	$302,339,317	$199,102,852	66%	$40,968,055	14%
Academic[a]	269	56,896,770	2,434	3,478	204,241,075	NA	NA	56,068,352	27%
School[c]-Public	4,002	52,298,256	3,331	1,745	109,535,583	90,839,857	83%	15,121,364	14%
Nonpublic	2,298	9,975,857	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Institution[c]	169	988,821	102	163	3,086,072	2,103,448	68%	779,339	25%
Medical[e]	232	NA	366	476	21,771,273	NA	NA	6,511,075	30%
NY State Library[f]	1	1,910,510	90	133	6,892,751	4,047,325	59%	1,648,900	24%
TOTAL	7,697	172,561,860	9,949	12,341	$630,253,374	$296,093,482	47%	$115,240,149	18%

[a] *Public and Association Libraries Statistics 1983*, prepublication data.
[b] *Selected Statistics on Postsecondary Libraries in New York State, Fall 1983 and Fiscal Year 1982–83 Data, June 1984.*
[c] SED Information Center on Education. Public/Nonpublic school library statistics, 1982–83.
[d] *Institution Libraries Statistics 1982/83.*
[e] *A Directory of Medical Libraries in New York State, 1982.*
[f] *New York State Library, 1984* and 1983–84 ARL Questionnaire.
NA Data not available

New York State Library
September 1984

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